

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE 1745Z

ORIG: T. SILEO  
UNIT: WH/4/PM  
EXT: 8324  
DATE: 3 APRIL 1961

**SECRET**

ROUTING	
1	4
2	5
3	6

TO: JMWAVE  
FROM: ~~XXXXXXXX~~ BELL  
CONF: BELL 15  
INFO: COP, ADDP/A, WH 3, BELL S/C

*file Amyum*

APR 4 1745Z 61  
DEFERRED  
ROUTINE  
OUT 9693  
UT 9693

TO: PRIORITY WAVE INFO  
JWZIP  
NOTE REF: WAVE 5177 (IN 1374)\*

CITE ~~XXXX~~ BELL 3792  
3792

AUTHORITY GRANTED PROVIDE FUNDS PER REF.

(END OF MESSAGE)

WH Comment: \*AMYUM organization took possession of 100,000 pesos in Cuba for which we provide 20,000 U.S. dollars to a source in Miami. Funds are for operational expenses.

*let*  
J.C. KING, C/WH/4

C/WH/4/PM *R.B. Moore*  
C/WH/4/FINANCE *[Signature]*

COORDINATING OFFICERS

**SECRET**

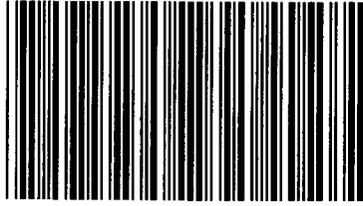
*03*  
J.D. ESTELLE, C/WH/4  
AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

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Copy No.

2/10/61

SECRET



DOCUMENT

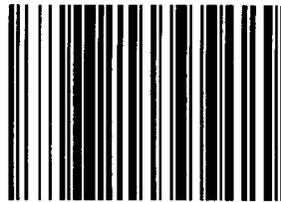
Box Number: JFK64-28

Source Number: 104-10193-10147

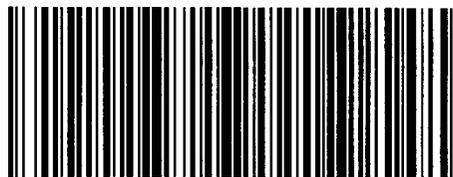
CADRE Ref ID: C00559494

Pub Date: 03/24/1961

Pages: 8



C00559494



104-10193-10147

SECRET

SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM			
UNCLASSIFIED	CONFIDENTIAL SECRET		
<b>CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP</b>			
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	INITIALS	DATE
1	10/4/51		
2	Attn: Mr. Satcher	S	
3	2605 Quarters I		
4	[Whelker] 03	rw	
5	10/4/51 JB B		
6			
ACTION		DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
APPROVAL		DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
COMMENT		FILE	RETURN
CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
<b>Remarks:</b>			
<p>Attached for your information is a copy of a memorandum from our Washington office concerning an interview with the committee for 1230 on 24 March 1951.</p>			
<b>FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER</b>			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.			DATE
S. J. [unclear], [unclear], [unclear]			4/5/51
UNCLASSIFIED	CONFIDENTIAL	SECRET	

FORM NO. 237  
1 APR 55

Replaces Form 30-4  
which may be used.

U S GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1953-O-342531 (40)

4/27

Chief, Contact Division  
Attn: Support Branch (Crowley)

24 March 1961

Chief, Washington Office

CC 7-10-3271

Interview with AKEC Committee

1. At the request of Mr. Ashcraft for Reichart, WH Division, Frank Sheridan interviewed the committee for AKEC at the Washington Field Office on 24 March 1961. They consisted of Abel Mestre, Victor Pedrosa, Silvio Samabria, Leslie Pextin, Carlos Garcia del Tran, and Paul Heilman. Mestre stated that the organization was founded about June 1960 in Miami as a clandestine apolitical group with the objective to overthrow Castro, to unite the various Cuban exile groups and to create laws for the effective reconstruction of Cuba. Membership is comprised of individual businessmen rather than representatives of large organizations.

2. The committee had been meeting with various United States officials in Washington, D. C., to express its views. Its members are worried over Castro propaganda, which, although untrue, has been accepted as fact, i.e., twenty thousand killings by Batista and the claim that Castro's was a social revolution rather than a political one. They pointed out that the Cuban economy was formerly prospering with an enlarging middle class, so that the term social revolution has been used by Castro primarily to promote leftist measures. In addition, labor legislation was in effect which actually put employers at a disadvantage with employees, compared to the other countries of Latin America. The problem facing Cuban labor was primarily the seasonal crop economy. Now the people have less pay, less commodities available, no claims against anyone and merely work for a Castro-Communist government. The farmer has not been helped by agrarian reforms, but has been obliged to enter cooperatives or to sell his crops at controlled prices, which are paid when and how the government pleases. This is merely an imitation of what Castro promised.

3. The committee feels that supporters of the revolution actually were seeking honesty in government and the liberty outlined in the 1940 constitution. In this regard, the members feel that the Communists may try for a second round in any government replacing Castro. Such an interim regime must develop careful measures to promote true democratic elections. This government may include covert Communists who would be a constant threat. For this reason, it was emphasized and re-emphasized that the exile leaders be most carefully screened by the United States before their return to Cuba.

4. A major concern has been unification of the various exiled factions. This has now started, but the committee feels that businessmen such as they represent should be proportionately represented in any new government during the interim period of reconstruction. They believe that no leftists of any shade should be included in the provisional government. Business representatives of the economic classes should participate for the first time in Cuban politics and should be consulted at all stages.

5. They emphasized that the problem is not merely a Cuban one, but is a Communist springboard against the United States. They urged that the United States do what they, the businessmen, failed to do in Cuba - to take the offensive. Developments in Cuba have followed the classic Communist techniques, so that it should not be difficult to anticipate future moves. United States propaganda must be overhauled. It should be less passive and more effectively aggressive. To date, propaganda has been the Communists' most effective weapon and the United States has lost to the point that it is threatened by a serious loss of respect in Latin America. Although it has long been the basic ideal model, some Latins are beginning to wonder whether they are right about the United States and whether they should switch sides. Fidel Castro won his revolution by propaganda and not by arms.

6. The primary worry of the committee seems to be the leftist orientation of leaders who have taken over the government in exile during recent days. They emphasized that Cuba needs a democratic government and they fear a tyranny of the right or the left. The United States must realize that some of the exile leaders participated as ministers in the Castro government and might try to continue some of the bad aspects of the Castro program.

7. Silvio Sarabia commented that, although CIA appeared to be in touch with all of the other Cuban groups, no one had approached his organization to assist or to learn what it was doing. The whole committee offered to be of any possible assistance to CIA at any time. No effort was made to solicit information or funds from CIA during this session.

F. J. Sheridan

Enclosures: 3 AFEC documents

W-14279

# Association for the Reconstruction of the Cuban Economy (ARCE)

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS  
ARTICLE I

Section 1. The Association for the Reconstruction of the Cuban Economy (ARCE) is a non-profit organization established for the purpose of promoting the economic reconstruction of Cuba and the Caribbean region.

Section 2. The objectives of ARCE shall be to study, promote, and carry out projects and programs that will contribute to the economic development and reconstruction of Cuba and the Caribbean region.

Section 3. ARCE shall be organized into a membership organization consisting of individuals and corporations who are interested in the economic reconstruction of Cuba and the Caribbean region.

Section 4. The membership of ARCE shall be open to all individuals and corporations who are interested in the economic reconstruction of Cuba and the Caribbean region.

Section 5. The membership of ARCE shall be divided into three classes: Honorary, Life, and Regular.

Section 6. The Regular membership of ARCE shall be open to all individuals and corporations who are interested in the economic reconstruction of Cuba and the Caribbean region.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE CUBAN ECONOMY  
ARCE

ARTICLE II

1200 Huntington Memorial Building, Miami, Florida



1953 Washington, Alaska  
48  
March 13, 1953

Dear Mr. [Name]:

I am pleased to hear that you are interested in the [Project Name] and that you are planning to visit the [Location] in the near future.

The [Project Name] is a very important project and we are very interested in your participation. We are currently [Status] and we are looking for [Requirements].

If you are interested in participating, please contact [Contact Name] at [Phone Number] or [Address]. We will be happy to provide you with more information.

Very truly yours,  
[Signature]

[Name]  
[Title]  
[Organization]

[Address]  
[City, State, Zip]

[Phone Number]

[Fax Number]

[E-mail Address]

[Website]

[Other Contact Information]

[Additional Information]

[Closing Remarks]

[Footnote/Disclaimer]

